

FEDERATED GATEWAY IP-TELEPHONY COMMUNICATION

Abstract of the Disclosure

Methods of selling federated telephony access services with the assistance of associates are disclosed. The federated telephony access services are accessible to users of a merchant web site. The web site provides services for allowing users to electronically lease telephony access connectivity. The web site provides an electronic form for enrolling a plurality of associates using an on-line registration system. The electronic form allows each said associate to supply at least one parameter describing local connectivity of a telephony gateway supplied by a given associate. The telephony gateway links an Internet protocol (IP) network to a public switched telephone network (PSTN). At a time after registration, a request to place a call to an endpoint located within said PSTN local to the gateway is received. A hybrid IP-telephony and PSTN connection is next established between a caller and the endpoint via the gateway. The associate is paid a fee for supplying the telephony gateway service.

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